

IN THE CLAIMS

The following complete listing of all claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. The Examiner-requested moving of the term what is claimed is, has been included.

1. (Currently Amended) A vehicle load support for engagement to a vehicle comprising:
an elongated frame member having a first side member and a second side member;

said first side member and said second side member extending between an upper section with an engagement end, and a lower section with an attachment end;

said attachment end adapted for rotational engagement with the rear of a vehicle in a mounted position;

said frame member, in said mounted position, rotatable between an elevated position, and a lowered position wherein said upper section is positionable to contact one of the ground or cargo sitting on the ground;

means to maintain said frame member in said elevated position having a first flexible tether engaged at a first connection to said first side member and at a second connection to said second side member, said first flexible tether having a tether center area between said first connection and said second connection, a second flexible tether engaged at a first end to said vehicle and having a second end, and means to slidably engage said second end of said second flexible tether to said center area of said first flexible tether;

means to suspend said cargo from said upper section of said frame member; and

whereby said upper section of said frame member engaged in said rotational engagement with said vehicle, may be rotated adjacent to said cargo on said ground adjacent to said vehicle, and thereafter rotated to, and removably maintained in, said elevated position, with said cargo suspended above said ground engaged upon said upper section.

2. (Original) The vehicle load support of claim 1 additionally comprising:

said lower section of said frame member in angled engagement with said upper section at a determined angle;

said determined angle imparting a vectored force comprising substantially the combined weight of said frame member and said cargo, when said frame member is in said elevated position; and

said vectored force communicated substantially toward said rear of said vehicle at said determined angle when said is maintained in said elevated position.

3.(Original) The vehicle load support of claim 1 additionally comprising:

said engagement end of said frame member positioned at a point on said frame member substantially equidistant between two distal ends of said frame member at said attachment end;

said first side member extending between said engagement end and one of said two distal ends;

said second side member extending between said engagement end and the other of said two distal ends; and

means for rotational engagement of each of said two distal ends with the rear of said vehicle.

4.(Original) The vehicle load support of claim 2 additionally comprising:

said engagement end of said frame member positioned at a point on said frame member substantially equidistant between two distal ends of said frame member at said attachment end;

said first side member extending between said engagement end and one of said two distal ends;

said second side member extending between said engagement end and the other of said two distal ends; and

means for rotational engagement of each of said two distal ends with the rear of said vehicle.

5.(Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9.(Canceled)

10.(Canceled)

11. (Withdrawn) The vehicle load support of claim 1 wherein said attachment end is adapted for rotational engagement with said vehicle by employing a rotational means of attachment to a support bar; and

said support bar is adapted for cooperative engagement with a trailer hitch orifice mounted on said vehicle.

12. (Withdrawn) The vehicle load support of claim 2 wherein said attachment end is adapted for rotational engagement with said vehicle by employing a rotational means of attachment to a support bar; and

said support bar is adapted for cooperative engagement with a trailer hitch orifice mounted on said vehicle.

13. (Withdrawn) The vehicle load support of claim 9 wherein said attachment end is adapted for rotational engagement with said vehicle by employing a rotational means of attachment to a support bar; and

said support bar is adapted for cooperative engagement with a trailer hitch orifice mounted on said vehicle.

14. (Withdrawn) The vehicle load support of claim 10 wherein said attachment end is adapted for rotational engagement with said vehicle by employing a rotational means of attachment to a support bar; and

said support bar is adapted for cooperative engagement with a trailer hitch orifice mounted on said vehicle.

15.(Original) The vehicle load support of claim 1 additionally comprising:

said upper section being separable from said lower section.

16.(Original) The vehicle load support of claim 2 additionally comprising:

said upper section being separable from said lower section.

17.(Original) The vehicle load support of claim 9 additionally comprising:

said upper section being separable from said lower section.

18.(Original) The vehicle load support of claim 1 additionally comprising:

a support brace extending between said first side member and said second side member.

19. (Original) The vehicle load support of claim 2 additionally comprising:

a support brace extending between said first side member and said second side member.

20.(Original) The vehicle load support of claim 15 additionally comprising:

a support brace extending between said first side member and said second side member.

21.(Original) The vehicle load support of claim 1 wherein said means to suspend said cargo from said upper section of said frame member comprises:

an elongated flexible support strap; and

a plurality of support loops formed in said support strap.

22.(Original) The vehicle load support of claim 2 wherein said means to suspend said cargo from said upper section of said frame member comprises:

an elongated flexible support strap; and

a plurality of support loops formed in said support strap.